

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A composition for protecting skin comprising sphingomyelin as an active ingredient.
2. (Original) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for inhibiting a skin aging.
3. (Original) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for inhibiting a skin photoaging.
4. (Withdrawn) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for curing a wound.
5. (Withdrawn) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for improving a skin barrier function.
6. (Withdrawn) The use according to claim 5, wherein the use is one for rapidly repairing a damaged skin barrier.
7. (Withdrawn) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for treating an atopic skin.
8. (Withdrawn) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for improving an itchy skin.
9. (Withdrawn) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for improving a softness of skin.

10. (Withdrawn) Use of the composition according to claim 1 for preventing rough and scaly skin formation.

11. (Withdrawn) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the sphingomyelin is derived from milk or an egg.

12. (Withdrawn) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the sphingomyelin is hydrogenated sphingomyelin.

13. (Withdrawn) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is a composition for oral administration or topical application.

14. (New) Use of the composition according to claim 2, wherein the composition is a composition for oral administration or topical application.

15. (New) Use of the composition according to claim 3, wherein the composition is a composition for oral administration or topical application.